(*b*) whether the Sub-Assistant Surgeons are at present competent to issue the ordinary Health and Age certificates ;

(*c*) whether the Sub-Assistant Surgeons are at present competent to conduct inspection of school children ; and

(*d*) if the answer to parts (*b*) and (*c*) is in the negative, the reasons for this distinction ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Higher education and better knowledge are considered necessary to issue Health and Age certificates and to conduct inspection of school children. In the case of post-mortem examinations, the certificates issued are scrutinised by the Darbar Physician and the issuer himself is subject to examination in the Courts.

Roads in the Tiruvalla taluk

64. ✻**MR. N. E. VARUGHESE** (*Tiruvalla I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the respective lengths of the P. W. D. roads and the ryots' roads in the Tiruvalla taluk.

(*b*) the number of applications for ryots' roads to be taken up by the P. W. D. and the stages of enquiries in connection with the applications ; and

(*c*) the average gain to the Government per mile by taking up the ryots' roads ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) P. W. D. roads 158 miles. Ryots' roads 157 miles.

(*b*) Seven. Steps are in progress in respect of 2 cases to get the lands free of compensation. The remaining five are not cut according to the ryots' roads rules. So necessary instructions have been given to the ryots concerned to complete their roads as per the rules.

(*c*) The question of gain does not arise from the standpoint of Government.

Memorial by All-Travancore Political Congress.

65. ✻**MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a memorial was submitted to the Dewan on the 2nd May 1934 by or on behalf of the All-Travancore Politicial Congress ;

(*b*) if so, whether, in that memorial, the followiwg passage occurs :

"We beg leave in this connection to draw your pointed attention to the circumstance that gave a new turn to the agitation a few days previous to the recent Viceregal visit to this State. Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer and Mr. T. Austin conveyed to us through some of their visitors that Government was ready to redress our grievances if we would approach them in the proper spirit. These visitors were given to understand that, in case a few leading men of our communities

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[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

would address a confidential communication to the Dewan that abstention had ceased and that our communities had given up all attempts to approach the Paramount Power for the redress of their grievances, would undertake to influence the Joint Political Congress to call off the agitation and would present a memorial to His Highness the Maha Raja, our grievances would be redressed immediately. They were also told that proceedings initiated against individuals, institutions and journals in the course of the repressive policy adopted by Government would be dropped.

"Since abstention has naturally come to an end with the general elections under the reforms, there was no difficulty in admitting that abstention had ceased. But regarding the recourse to authorities beyond His Highness the Maha Raja, we had definitely made up our minds to represent our grievances to His Excellency the Viceroy. The meaning of insisting on this condition at a time when His Excellency was about to visit Travancore was clear to us. But since immediate redress was promised and since we had no desire to do anything without sufficient cause which would affect the prestige of the Government of our country, those leaders acceded to this condition also. The letter agreed upon was delivered. In fair reliance on the terms adumbrated during the negotiations which thus transpired, actuated by a desire to conform to the wishes of Government in that behalf and in the hope that an honourable settlement of the problem was at hand, Mr. E. J. John, the President of the Congress, issued an appeal to call off the agitation and to exercise restraint so as to facilitate the creation of an atmosphere conducive to the promotion of peace and quietness in the country. The Committee stepped in at this juncture to suspend the agitation on the expectation that the hopes raised during the negotiations would materialise.

"The memorial having been approved by Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer and Mr. T. Austin, permission was sought to submit it to His Highness the Maha Raja. Government thereupon insisted that a letter exactly similar to the one given to the Dewan should also be submitted to His Highness along with the memorial. All the conditions required of them were duly fulfilled, but the reply bore no reference to the negotiations that led up to the letters and the memorial. They were then consoled by the promise of a communique by Government within a fortnight announcing the settlement of the question. But nothing transpired. Date after date was fixed for the announcement until at last they were told that directly you, Sir, sssume charge as Dewan, the question would finally be solved. All that was required of one party having been honourably carried out, the failure on the part of the other —the Government—to make good the assurance has served to aggravate the feeling of discontent among the people and has led to the resumption of the agitation. We avail ourselves of this opportunity to approach you with the prayer for an immediate solution of the problem of our disabilities."

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(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether it is a fact that Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, the Legal and Constitutional Adviser, or Mr. T. Austin, the then Dewan, informed the abstentionists that, in case a few leading men of the Christian, Ezhava and Muslim communities would address a confidential communication to the Dewan that abstention had ceased and that the abstentionists had given up all attempts to approach the Paramount Power for redress of their grievances and would undertake to influence the Joint Political Congress to call off the agitation, their grievances would be redressed immediately ;

(*d*) whether, as stated in the above passage quoted in part (*b*), Government promised the issue of a communique :

(*e*) whether Government would be pleased to place on the table, the letters referred to in the passage quoted in part (*b*) and the replies that were given ; and

(*f*) the reply given by the Dewan to the deputation which presented the memorial to the Dewan at Munnar on the 2nd May 1934 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Government understand that there were some informal talks between Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and Mr. Austin on the one hand and certain Christian gentlemen on the other hand. Government have seen a statement by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar setting out the gist of what took place and they see no reason to believe that it is not accurate. They are not aware of the gist of discussions with Mr. Austin. These discussions apparently culminated in a letter to Mr. Austin which was published in the Press. Government understand that there was not and could not have been any promise to redress the grievances immediately.

(*d*) Government have no information on this matter.

(*e*) As stated in the previous para, the letter to Mr. Austin had already been published in the Press. So far as the question relates to His Highness the Maha Raja, Government decline to answer it on the floor of the House.

(*f*) The Dewan did not make any formal reply to the deputationists beyond a few words of welcome while opening the discussion. The rest of the proceedings consisted merely of informal discussion in the shape of questions and answers touching upon the important issues raised in the memorial. Replies promised by the deputationists to some of the points raised by the Dewan are still awaited.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Sir, with regard to part (*a*), may I know whether an advance copy of the memorial was submitted to the Dewan by the memorialists ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know, Sir, whether the Dewan consulted the Legal and Constitutional Adviser before he met the memorialists at Munnar ?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice. I have no information.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) (Deputy President): I rise to a point of order, Sir, whether a question can be asked as to whether the Dewan may consult the Legal and Constitutional Adviser to His Highness the Maha Raja.

PRESIDENT: The question is entirely out of order in-as-much as he is the Legal and Constitutional Adviser not to the Dewan but to His Highness the Maha Raja.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, in view of the fact that Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer was one of the persons with whom the representatives of the Congress had discussions, it could not have been possible for Government to know the exact situation with regard to these discussions by consulting Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the answer to that question is that Government did not consult Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar because they did not think it necessary to do so.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the attention of Government was drawn to the newspaper report of the Dewan's speech in reply to the memorialists?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): As far as I know, there were several reports of the so-called reply by the Dewan to the deputationists in the newspapers.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Government did not think it necessary to contradict many of the statements contained in the memorial?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government did not think it necessary to do so, but I hope that the answer to part (*f*) of the question will satisfy the Honourable member.

EDAVANATT MR. S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether there is a recognised political body known as the All-Travancore Political Congress?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUMJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Recognised by whom?

EDAVANATT MR. S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): By Government.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether Government accept responsibility for what Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar did in this case?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government cannot accept any responsibility.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I take it, Sir, that Government are not concerned in what Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said or did not say to the abstentionists or their representatives?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think so. Government are not concerned with what Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said in his private capacity to the abstentionists or to other people.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know why Government took the trouble of answering the question in regard to the statement made by a person for whose statements Government do not accept any responsibility and in which Government have no concern?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) I rise to a point of order whether it is open to a member to ask why a question has been admitted and why an answer has been given to it.

PRESIDENT: That is clearly not allowable.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know, Sir, whether Government are in a position to inform the House as to their attitude in regard to the contention of certain people that they are aggrieved by reason of the constitutional reform?

PRESIDENT: I am afraid I must disallow that question also. It is asking for the opinion of Government.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know, Sir, whether Government, if they are so advised and if they take action in regard to the alleged grievances of some people, will try to ascertain public opinion before arriving at a final decision?

PRESIDENT: That also is out of order because it is a hypothetical question.

Appendix.

(*Vide* **Question No. 46.**)

Statement showing the income derived per annum from the Kesavapuram Market.

Year.	Income.		
	Rs.	Ch.	C.
1105	1,396	6	0
1106	1,123	11	0
1107	1,301	21	8
1108	1,103	22	8
1109	1,030	24	0

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